Letters to Leaders

Match national and Idaho leaders to the people they represent.

5.SS.4.8 "Identify the President and Vice President of the United States and the U.S. Senators and Representatives to Congress from Idaho."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the President and Vice President, circle Idaho's senators, and write 1 or 2 beside each Idaho House member to show that member's district. Use your marks to match each leader to the people they represent.

Who Would Get Your Letter?

1. Imagine writing a letter from Idaho to a leader in Washington, D.C. On January 20, 2025, Donald Trump became President of the United States, and JD Vance became Vice President. The President leads the executive branch and signs or vetoes bills. The Vice President can cast a vote in the Senate to break a tie. Both serve the whole country, including Idaho.

2. Idaho also sends two people to the U.S. Senate. At the start of the 119th Congress in January 2025, Idaho's senators were Mike Crapo and Jim Risch. Senators help make federal laws and represent their entire state, not just one part of it. Each state has two senators, so Idaho has the same number as every other state.

3. Idaho has two seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. At the start of the 119th Congress, Russ Fulcher represented Idaho's 1st congressional district, and Mike Simpson represented its 2nd congressional district. House members also help make federal laws, but each represents one district. If your letter is about an Idaho district, knowing its number helps you identify the right representative.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who became President and Vice President on January 20, 2025?

2. Who were Idaho's two U.S. senators at the start of the 119th Congress?

3. Who represented Idaho's 1st congressional district at the start of the 119th Congress?

4. Who represented Idaho's 2nd congressional district at the start of the 119th Congress?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Your cousin in Idaho's 1st district wants to write to two members of Congress about a federal law. In three sentences, name a senator and the cousin's House member, explain whom each represents, and name the President and Vice President as leaders who serve the whole country.

ANSWER KEY

Letters to Leaders

GRADE 5 · 5.SS.4.8

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the President and Vice President, circle Idaho's senators, and write 1 or 2 beside each Idaho House member to show that member's district. Use your marks to match each leader to the people they represent. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who became President and Vice President on January 20, 2025?	**Donald Trump became President, and JD Vance became Vice President.**
2	Who were Idaho's two U.S. senators at the start of the 119th Congress?	**Mike Crapo and Jim Risch.**
3	Who represented Idaho's 1st congressional district at the start of the 119th Congress?	**Russ Fulcher.**
4	Who represented Idaho's 2nd congressional district at the start of the 119th Congress?	**Mike Simpson.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Your cousin could write to Senator Mike Crapo, who represents all of Idaho. Your cousin could also write to Representative Russ Fulcher, who represents the 1st district. President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance serve the whole country.

Accept either Mike Crapo or Jim Risch as the senator in Part 3. The passage identifies officeholders at the stated dates in January 2025.